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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHARLTON KINGS

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

STEPHEN KNIGHT

M.B., B.S.(Lond), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector

W.L. BOOY, A.I.A.S.

Corporate Surveyor

Certified Public Health Inspector

Pests Officer

W.G. Davies

(Part-time)

To the Chairman & Members of

CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the environmental hygiene and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District.

Mr.W.L.Booy, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, contributes the section dealing with the Sanitary Inspection of the District and the Council's refuse collection service.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population, 6,710, is an increase of 300 persons over the previous year. The number of births 93, also is 7 more than in 1956, but in spite of this increase the Birth Rate 13.9 is still lower than in the County and country as a whole.

Eighty nine people died during the year, two more than in 1956, making the Death Rate 13.3 which is somewhat higher than the national rate 11.5.

The lower birth rate and higher death rate are due in part to the relatively high proportion of elderly people living in the District.

For two consecutive years no baby under one year of age has died so that the infantile mortality again is nil.

The wave of Asian Influenza reached the District in the autumn and although it was a mild form of influenza it did cause widespread illness particularly among older schoolchildren.

I sincerely thank the members of the Council and my colleagues for the help and support I have received during the year.

I am, Mr.Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

August 1958.

CHARLTON KINGS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	3,399
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	6,710
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1957)	2,338
Rateable Value (at 31.3.58)	£89,558
Sum represented by a penny rate	£345

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	92	48	44
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	93	48	45
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	13.9
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	1.07
Corrected Birth Rate (13.9 X 1.07)	14.9

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	5	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	5	1	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	0.74
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	51

<u>DEATHS</u>	89	42	47
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	13.3		
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths)	0.86		
Corrected Death Rate (13.3 X 0.86)	11.4		

No. 30. DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILD BIRTH, ABORTION .. NIL

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE .. NIL
(Infantile Mortality)

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification :

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	-	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	5
18. Coronary disease, angina	6	9
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
20. Other heart disease	7	7
21. Other circulatory diseases	1	-
22. Influenza	1	1
23. Pneumonia	2	1
24. Bronchitis	1	1
25. Other disease of the respiratory system	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	8
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
34. All other accidents	1	1
35. Suicide	3	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
Total ...	42	47

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
Birth Rate					
(per 1,000 population)	13.1	12.8	11.7	13.4	13.9
Death Rate					
(per 1,000 population)	12.2	13.6	12.3	13.6	13.3
Infantile Mortality Rate(per					
1,000 live births)(deaths of					
infants under 1 year)	13.0	13.0	14.0	Nil	Nil
Neonatal Mortality Rate(per					
1,000 live births)(Deaths of					
infants under 1 month)	13.0	13.0	14.0	Nil	Nil

FOR COMPARISON, THE BIRTH, DEATH and INFANTILE
MORTALITY RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES etc.
ARE GIVEN BELOW

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>Charlton Kings U.D.</u>
Live Births	16.1	16.4	13.9
Still Births (per 1,000 total)(live and still births)	22.4	27.78	51
Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year)(per 1,000 live births)	23	22.32	-
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month) (per 1,000 live births)	16.5	16.38	-
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.5	10.41	13.3

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1957
(Excluding Tuberculosis)

	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>		<u>1 - 4.</u>		<u>5 - 14</u>		<u>15 - 24</u>		<u>25 & over</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>. M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	5
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	2	18	19	29	25	-	-	-	2	49	48
Diphtheria											-	-
Dysentery											-	-
Meningococcal infection											-	-

	Under 5 years M. F.	5 - 14 M. F.	15 - 44 M. F.	45 - 64 M. F.	65 and over M. F.	Total M. F.
Pneumonia			2			2 -
Encephalitis						- -
Erysipelas						- -
Puerperal pyrexia						- -

SCARLET FEVER

There were six cases of scarlet fever as against seven last year. The incidence of this disease is light and its character mild. It is now usual to isolate the cases at home.

DIPHTHERIA

No case occurred and there have been no cases in the district since 1944.

WHOOPING COUGH

Six cases of whooping cough were notified, and no deaths occurred.

Ninety seven children were vaccinated against whooping cough either by their own doctor or at the Child Welfare Centre.

MEASLES

Measles was epidemic during the year giving rise to 97 cases, but no deaths occurred.

POLIOMYELITIS

There were no cases of poliomyelitis. The scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis was extended and offered to expectant mothers and children born in the years 1943 to 1957.

The number of vaccinations was limited owing to the quantity of vaccine made available.

FOOD POISONING

No case of food poisoning was notified, a position which reflects credit on the standard of hygiene in the food trade.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st. December 1957:

	Under 1 year						
Age at 31.12.57: i.e. born in year	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	
	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952/48	1947/43
Number immunised:	17	86	59	56	63	325	324
Total number immunised:			930				

Number of children immunised in :	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>
Primary	130	57	56	53	60	58
Maintenance	125	50	88	77	53	74

One hundred and thirty children were immunised against diphtheria during the year and of these seventy eight were babies under one year of age.

Immunisation against diphtheria shows a great improvement over previous years, more than twice the number of children being immunised. This is due in part to an influx of new families but 84% of babies are being immunised before their first birthday. The percentage of acceptance is higher than the aim of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign which is the protection of 75% of such babies.

VACCINATION against SMALLPOX

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year :

Vaccination

	<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vaccination	38	3	2	1	5	49
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	5	7	12

Forty nine persons were vaccinated against smallpox , of these thirty eight were babies under one year of age .

The acceptance rate for babies not yet a year old is 40%. It is considered that 50% is the minimum if there is to be a sufficient barrier to spread of the disease in

the presence of imported infection.

Proportion of children vaccinated under one year of age expressed as a percentage of the estimated number of births during the year :-

<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
25%	28%	37%	35%	43%	40%

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no new cases and no deaths from this disease.

It is considered that if full use is made of the preventive measures, tuberculosis will be eliminated.

The Council have played their part in rehousing the patient's family. Mass Radiography is available and everyone should make use of this facility for a chest X-Ray.

B.C.G. Vaccination is offered to 13 year old school children. More and more parents are arranging for their children to be protected at a time of life when the adolescent is particularly susceptible.

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st. December 1957, was as follows :-

<u>Respiratory</u>			<u>C.N.S.</u>	<u>Other Forms</u>			<u>Total</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
15	17	32	- - -	3	1	4	36

FOOD and DRUGS ACT, 1938.-- CLEAN FOOD

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are in force for securing hygienic methods in the Handling, Trapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the open air.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47: Removal to Suitable Premises
of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

Section 1.

These Acts give the local authority powers for the compulsory removal of aged or sick people in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. The compulsory powers were not used during the year but a number of old people living alone and in failing health have been visited from time to time. A little regular help often enables them to carry on living in their own homes and prevents insanitary conditions arising. This assistance is usually given by the Home Help Service.

The Old People's Clubs are most useful; they look after their members and report instances in which help is required.

The Old People's Welfare Committee is maintaining a register of old people living alone in the area.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

Samples taken under the Public Health Acts, and Pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford. The laboratory is part

of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health, and no charge is made for making use of its services.

Chemical examination of specimens is undertaken by Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

Home Help Service

This Service is organised by the County Council, and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness.

As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage the household duties because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, North East Area, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the Health Committee of the County Council.

Information is available from the Divisional Health
O Charlton Kings.

District Nurse: Nurse M.V. Clifford,
"Bermarlee",
Little Herbert's Road,
Charlton Kings.
Telephone numbers: Cheltenham 52523.

Child Welfare Centre

Meetings of the Charlton Kings Child Welfare Centre are held in the Holy Apostles Church Hall, London Road, every Tuesday at 2.30p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Urban District Council is within the statutory water supply area of the Cheltenham Corporation Water Undertaking.

The supply was satisfactory throughout the year both in respect of quality and quantity.

During the year 104 houses were connected to the public water mains, comprising 103 new houses and 1 existing house.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR & SURVEYOR

W.L. BOOY

HOUSING

a) Summary

- 1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be in some respect unfit for human habitation ... 26
- 2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 22
- 3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to :-
 - a) the serving of Notices requiring the execution of works..0
 - b) the making of demolition or closing orders ...6
- 4) The number of Notices served requiring the execution of works ...6
- 5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice ...0
- 6) The number of demolition or closing orders made ...1
- 7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 11, Housing Act 1936 and Housing Act 1954 ...4
- 8) The number of houses demolished ...1

b) Improvement Grants

There was considerable interest shown in Improvement Grants, and a further 13 grants were made, bringing the total to 40.

In November the Council decided to suspend the scheme temporarily, in view of the sharp rises in interest rates.

c) Rent Control

Numerous enquiries were received during the year concerning rents and repairs. In most cases the tenants appeared to come to agreement with their landlords. Only two applications for certificates of disrepair were received, one certificate being issued.

REHOUSING

The only scheme completed during the year was the East End Road scheme, comprising the redevelopment of a derelict site by the erection of 10 flats. This brought the number of Council properties to 300, and marked a halt in the post-war housing drive, necessitated by an adverse change in the financial basis of rehousing, i.e. considerable increase in interest charges coupled with a marked decrease in subsidies.

By the end of the year an examination of the housing list showed that the majority of "hardship cases" had been dealt with. The rehousing of a number of families was effected by the reallocation of vacated premises. Such vacations appeared to be on the increase, as suitable houses became more readily available for purchase in the area.

BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

The house building figures for the year were :-

Castlefields Estate	...	20
Little Herbert's		
Farm Estate	...	71
Individual houses	...	43
Council houses & flats	...	10
Total	...	144

During the year 131 plans were approved under Building Byelaws.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE

No major fault in the sewerage system occurred during the year, although a number of small repair works had to be put in hand.

To keep pace with estate development one length of 6" sewer had to be replaced by a new 12" concrete pipe sewer. The works, involving about 250 yards of sewer with manholes, were carried out under contract.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

No bed bug infestations were notified during the year. There were however one or two cases of flea infestation and these were treated with D.D.T. based insecticides.

REFUSE COLLECTION and DISPOSAL

The new collection arrangements, instituted the previous year, continued to function satisfactorily, keeping pace with the sharp increase in the number of houses. A weekly collection was maintained throughout the year with the exception only of brief periods around the Bank Holidays.

Disposal was by controlled tipping and for part of the year the method was used to reclaim an area of low-lying land at the edge of the Council's recreation ground. Hired plant was again used to ensure economic disposal, in accord with the Ministry's recommendations for this method of disposal.

Infestation by rats was negligible and the usual height of summer cricket infestation was quickly and effectively dealt with by the liberal use of insecticidal powder.

FOOD PREMISES and FOOD HYGIENE

The numbers of food premises in the area are as follows:-

Shops	...	30
Cafes	...	1
Hotels	...	2
Public Houses		8
County Council		
Establishments		2
Others	...	2
		<hr/>
		45
		<hr/>

All the premises were visited during the previous year, following the introduction of the new Food Hygiene Regulations. Follow up visits were made to many of the premises during the year under review.

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Acts were:-

Registered for the sale of ice-cream	...	15
Registered for the manufacture of		
sausages, preserved food etc..	...	2

MILK SUPPLIES

The position relating to milk supplies remained much the same as for previous years, i.e. no registered dairies and ten distributors, mainly operating from adjoining districts.

Seventeen licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

FACTORIES ACT 1937.

The number of factories on the register for the year was twenty four, comprising almost entirely small concerns employing only one or two workers.

The majority were visited during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's scheme introduced in April 1951 under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, continued to operate successfully.

The following is a summary of the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture for the period April 1957 to March 1958.

No. of properties inspected :-

(a)	Upon complaint	...	75
(b)	By Survey	...	592

No. of properties found to be infested :-

(a)	By rats	...	50
(b)	By mice	...	39

Routine sewer treatments were particularly successful showing a continuing drop in the level of infestation in the sewers.

